AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A portable information terminal comprising:

an image data storage unit storing image data;

a character recognition unit effecting character recognition processing on the image data stored in said image data storage unit to provide character information as a result of said character recognition processing;

a type designating unit designating a type of the character information provided as the result of said character recognition processing on the image, wherein the type being at least one of a url address, an email address, a phone number, or a name;

a character information storage unit storing the character information;

a control unit causing said character recognition unit to effect the character recognition processing on first image data, and causing said character information storage unit to store first character information being a result of the character recognition processing effected on said first image data in a fashion corresponding to the type designated to said type designating unit for said first character information; and

a continuous recognition instruction unit operated after the character recognition processing effected on said first image data for effecting character recognition processing on second image data for obtaining character information to be related to said first character information, wherein

said control unit causes said character information storage unit to store second character information being a result of the character recognition processing effected on said second image

data in a fashion corresponding to the type designated to said type designating unit for said second character information and related to said first character information.

2. (Currently amended) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein

said character recognition unit provides said character information after effecting correction according to the type designated to said type designating unit on the result of the character recognition processing.

3. (Currently amended) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein

said continuous recognition instruction unit is operated to cause said character recognition unit to effect the character recognition processing on said second image data for obtaining the character information to be related to said first character information continuously after the character recognition processing effected on said first image data.

4. (Currently amended) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, further comprising:

a character information storage instruction unit to be operated for instructing storage of the character information in said character information storage unit, wherein

said control unit stores collectively said first character information and said second character information in said character information storage unit in response to the operation of said character information storage instruction unit.

5. (Currently amended) The portable information terminal to according claim 1, wherein said character information storage unit can store phone book data, and

said first character information and said second character information form said phone book data.

6. (Currently amended) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein said character information storage unit can store address book data, and

said first character information and said second character information form said address book data.

7. (Currently amended) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein said first character information and said second character information are equal in type of the character information designated to said type designation unit in connection with said character information.

8. (Currently amended) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein said first character information and said second character information are different from each other in type of the character information designated to said type designation unit in connection with said character information.

9. (Currently amended) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein

said character recognition unit effects the character recognition processing on third image data for obtaining third character information to be related to said first and second character information in response to the operation of said continuous recognition instruction unit after the character recognition is effected on said first and second image data, and

at least two of said first character information, said second character information and said third character information are equal in type of the character information designated to said type designation unit in connection with said character information.

10. (Currently amended) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein

said character recognition unit effects the character recognition processing on third image data for obtaining third character information to be related to said first and second character information in response to the operation of said continuous recognition instruction unit after the character recognition is effected on said first and second image data, and

at least two of said first character information, said second character information and said third character information are different in type of the character information designated to said type designation unit in connection with said character information.

11. (Currently amended) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein

said portable information terminal is a cellular phone.

12. (Currently amended) A method of controlling a portable information terminal comprising the steps of:

accepting designation of a type of character information provided as a result of character recognition processing effected on first image data, wherein the type being at least one of a url address, an email address, a phone number, or a name;

effecting the character recognition processing on said first image data;

storing first character information being a result of the character recognition processing effected on said first image data in a fashion corresponding to the type designated for said first character information;

effecting the character recognition processing on second image data after the character recognition processing effected on said first image data; and

storing second character information being a result of the character recognition processing effected on said second image data in a fashion corresponding to the type designated for said second character information and related to said first character information.

13. (New) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein the type being at least two of the url address, the email address, the phone number, or the name.

14. (New) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein the type being at least three of the url address, the email address, the phone number, or the name.

15. (New) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein the type being the url address, the email address, the phone number, and the name.

16. (New) The method of controlling a portable information terminal according to claim 12, further comprising the type being at least two of the url address, the email address, the phone number, or the name.

17. (New) The method of controlling a portable information terminal according to claim 12, further comprising the type being at least three of the url address, the email address, the phone number, or the name.

18. (New) The method of controlling a portable information terminal according to claim 12, further comprising the type being the url address, the email address, the phone number, and the name.

19. (New) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein a user is designating the type.

20. (New) The method of controlling a portable information terminal according to claim 12, wherein a user is designating the type.

21. (New) The portable information terminal according to claim 2, wherein a different correction pattern is used depending on the type designated.

22. (New) The method of controlling a portable information terminal according to claim 12, further comprising the step of providing said character information after effecting correction according to the type designated on the result of the character recognition processing, wherein a different correction pattern is used depending on the type designated.

23. (New) The portable information terminal according to claim 21, wherein a user can select another character for correction from characters used in the correction pattern.

24. (New) The method of controlling a portable information terminal according to claim 22, wherein a user can select another character for correction from characters used in the correction pattern.

25. (New) A method of performing character recognition on an image comprising the steps of:

performing the character recognition processing by recognizing characters in the image captured or stored by a portable image device;

designating a type depending on the result of the character recognition processing; wherein a user is designating the type and the type being at least two of a url address, an email address, a phone number, or a name; and

performing a different correction pattern depending on the type designated, wherein the user can select another character for correction instead of the recognized character recognized in the character recognition processing.

26. (New) The method of performing character recognition on the image according to claim 25, further comprising the type being at least three of the url address, the email address, the phone number, or the name.

27. (New) The method of performing character recognition on the image according to claim 25, further comprising the type being the url address, the email address, the phone number, and the name.